

Minutes from SPAC meeting

02/28/20

In Attendance:

Sheila Wasfey
David Hobart
Randy Kanzleiter
Bill Robertson
Kurt Steinhaus
Izzy Manzanares
Lonnie Theye
Ryan Toya
Carole Rutten
Kari Lier

Guest Speaker:

Otis Peterson, C Division

Activities:

8:00 Dave called the meeting to order and read the minutes from the previous meeting

8:20 Dave stated that Otis Peterson will attend at 9:00 to talk about his vision for improving the Lab's image by enhancing our recruitment activities at the local school level.

Follow-up on the GPA discussion of the previous week: Carole stated that the Lab policy is not to require a specific GPA, but that the schools themselves are responsible for whom to forward for possible employment. The general requirement per lab policy is that the students be in "Good" academic standing.

Dave: Schedule Kurt for presenting the UC Boulder Report at the next SPAC Meeting on March 14th. This was stated as being an important event and a high attendance is desired for the presentation.

Carole and Kurt mentioned the need for ramping up in March for anticipated arrival of summer students.

Dave: Passed out the preliminary HTSC report and turned the meeting over to Lonnie.

Ryan: Brought up the topic that both SPAC and SA are having troubles attracting and retaining students.

Carole: Suggested compiling information on students interested in helping with SPAC or the SA through incoming student surveys during student orientation. A box could be placed on the surveys to indicate a desire to participate.

Kurt: Suggested recruiting additional members during an upcoming student breakfast. An activity could be mentioned that would likely attract more students.

Bill: Suggested creating an e-newsletter for students as a way to increase participation.

Dave: Suggested sending out an official call for student members to all divisions. The divisions themselves could then nominate students.

Lonnie: Mentioned that recruiting activities are historically:
Word of Mouth
Internal Recommendations

Ryan: Reiterated that we should start recruiting activities for SPAC immediately to get ready for the influx of summer students.

Dave: Lonnie will send out the letter calling for nominations. Lonnie will present a draft of the letter calling for nominations at the next meeting. Bill will advertise on the web page.

Dave reminded everyone that the position of SPAC Vice Chair for Sub-committees was vacant and that persons should/could nominate themselves or have someone else nominate them for this position.

Dave: **Comments on Committees.**

Rapid Entry - No Movement – Don't expect any significant results for this year.

Distinguished Student Awards

- One class for Technical
- One class for Non-technical
- The awards are to be presented July 30 in conjunction with the Student Symposium.

Izzy: Mentioned that the student picnic is currently scheduled for 6/13

Carole: Is planning on meeting with the L.A. Chamber of Commerce on 3/5. She is trying to be sensitive to the business community needs and is looking for ways that the business community can support the students through contributions to the picnic. Also, Carole mentioned starting a more end-of-the-year social for the students.

Dave & Carole: Mentioned the possibility of having a fundraiser for the SA since there is no type of monetary support for event planning.

Ryan: Suggested starting a Mentoring Award for exceptional mentors. This would be presented at the picnic.

Bill: Previous attempts at providing a type of mentoring award were well received.

Ryan: Mentioned that the exact date for the student elections is not set. They want the year-round students to participate in SA, but they still want the summer students to attend.

Carole: Expressed concern on waiting for the elections. She was worried that things might still be unresolved by the middle of the summer. She suggested having two elections. A first election for the executive committee should be held by 5/13. Still, it needs to be clear that there is the desire and need for summer students to attend.

9:00 Dave: Gave the floor to Otis Peterson.

Otis: Stated many ideas that he holds. There is no housing for students in L.A. and that we should turn this into a community outreach program. Hire high school and UGS students from the local community. He stated that having a minimum GPA requirement was outdated and unnecessary. We should hire local students and these can eventually become supporting roles at the lab. Historically, summer student ranks come from current employee children. A last point was that if an out of the area student is hired, it should be the responsibility of the Mentor to find housing for the student.

Carole: Mentioned that there will be an on-line posting of students (looking for jobs) and mentors (looking for students) (Web Address??). She then further mentioned that there is no specific min. GPA requirement and that the lab already hires ~ 63% of students from the local area.

Izzy: Mentioned that Sandia's student programs have a paid person to handle organizational activities.

Ryan: Said that Jerry had mentioned that the Astronomy Club has a dark night (no Moon) at the White Rock Overlook and that the students might be interested in participating in that.

David: **Back to Committees.** There are vacancies to fill.

Public Relations:

- We need more pamphlets printed since all were used at the Career Fair.

Liaisons:

- No response from John Browne's office as to when we will have a LIM meeting. He will contact Kurt to see if he can get a response.

Kari: Mentioned that there will be a follow-up of lessons-learned meeting on 3/19 with HR concerning the recent Student Career Fair.

Dave: Kurt will present the "UC Boulder" report next meeting. 9:40. Photos will be taken, also.

9:40 Adjourn